allot STD/PCOs and also decided the location of the new PCOs.

Composition of Committee.

(a) The Committee for allotment of the new STD Payphones would consist as under:

(i) Head of S.S.A. Chairman

(ii) An Officer from the Finance & Accounts Wing of the Department working under SSA Head such as AO/CAO etc. Member.

(iii) Three Non-official Members would be nominated by the Ministry for a tenure period of two years.

3. Procedure of allotment:

The Committee will meet atleast once every month depending on the amount of work relating to allotment of STD PCO to scrutinise and select the applications from the eligible persons for STD PCO allotment.

Allotment of Local PCOs.

Local PCOs are allotted liberally subject to technical feasibility. Wherever there are capacity constraints, educated unemployed. Handicapped Persons, Ex-servicemen/War Widows, Retired DOT staff, and SC/ST and other weaker section of the Society are given preference for allotment of local PCOs.

Statement-II

No. of PCOs allotted during the last three year, yearwise in Nagpur Telecom Distt.

	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
(i) STD/ISDPCOs	10	426	220
(ii) Local PCOs	5	409	220

Non-Functioning of Telecommunication Network in Hill Districts of Uttar Pradesh

674. SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about the non-functioning of telecommunication network in the hilly region of U.P.;

(b) whether any survey of the villages in terms of the use of communication facilities has been made, specially the number of outgoing/ingoing calls from villages in the region;

(c) whether Government are aware that the residents are facing enormous difficulties in emergencies due to nonfunctioning of telephones; and

(d) whether Government have monitored the facility provided to village Bedgaon, Patti Maniyarsuen, Pauri Garhwal, in view of the large population in and around the village, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Sir, Government are aware of unsatisfactory functioning of telecommunication network in the hilly region of U.P. With a view to improve such services, U.P. has been bifurcated and a separate office of Chief General Manager (CGM) alongwith his subordinate offices have been created with headquarters at Dehradun.

(b) No, Sir. However, a formal survey will be conducted of the villages in terms of use of communication facilities by the recently created CGM.

(c) Yes, Sir. All out efforts are being taken to improve the situation.

(d) At present no such facility has been provided to village Bedgaon, Patti Maniyarsuen, and Pauri Garhwal. However, Govt, have adopted National Telecom Policy which envisages provision of public telephone facility to all the villages of the country including the aforementioned ones progressively by the year 1997.

विभिन्न तेल कम्पनियों द्वारा गैस एजेन्सियों का आवंटन

675. **श्री रामजीलाल :** क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगें कि:

(क) हिन्दुस्तान पेट्रोलियम कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड, इंडियन ऑयल कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड ऑफ भारत पेट्रोलियम कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड द्वारा पहले से मंजूर किये गये गैस कनैक्शनों को जारी नहीं किये जाने के क्या कारण हैं जबकि